

The University of Toledo



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Date 10/14/87

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Toledo, Ohio 43606

College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Physics and Astronomy
(419) 537-2241

November 4, 1987

Representative Delbert Latta
House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Latta:

I am writing to ask your advice and support in attempts to utilize the current relaxation of tensions with Soviet Russia to secure information and the release of Raoul Wallenberg. (As I am certain you are aware, Raoul Wallenberg is the Swedish diplomat credited with saving 100,000 Jews in Hungary from Nazi death camps at the end of World War II, only to be imprisoned by the Soviet Union. He and Winston Churchill are the only two persons awarded Honorary US Citizenship).

I became interested in this matter because of my friendship with Guy von Dardel, who is the half brother of Raoul Wallenberg. Professor von Dardel is Professor of High Energy Physics at Lund University in Sweden (where I have also held a joint faculty appointment), a member of the Swedish Royal Academy of Sciences which selects the Nobel Prize recipients, and the leader of a research group at CERN, the European Nuclear Physics Center in Geneva.

Professor von Dardel and his wife Matilda visited us at The University of Toledo recently (see enclosed clipping), and we learned from them that the von Dardel family has new evidence that Raoul is alive, and has indications from within Russia that his release might be secured as a part of glasnost.

If this were to occur, it would be an uplifting world experience of major proportions. I have found that the public has very high recognition of the name of Raoul Wallenberg, and has formed a strong emotional bond with his heroic deeds and tragic fate. If the political atmosphere is now right, I would like to do what I can to call attention to this case, and I believe that many others would feel a similar commitment.

I am anxious to help in any way that I can. I am sure that your advice, both to persons like myself and to the von Dardel family, would be most appreciated, as would any efforts you might be able to make in the pursuit of the case. If I can provide any additional information, I can be reached at (419)-537-2341.

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Yours very truly,

Larry J. Curtis

Larry J. Curtis
Professor of Physics & Astronomy

LJC/sue